



CANNON BUILDING
861 SILVER LAKE BLVD., SUITE 203
DOVER, DELAWARE 19904-2467

STATE OF DELAWARE
DEPARTMENT OF STATE

TELEPHONE: (302) 744-4500
FAX: (302) 739-2712
WEBSITE: WWW.DPR.DE.LAWARE.GOV

DIVISION OF PROFESSIONAL REGULATION

ADVANCED PRACTICE REGISTERED NURSE COMMITTEE MINUTES (Approved May 6, 2019)

The Advanced Practice Committee held a meeting on March 18, 2019 at 5:00 p.m., in Conference Room A, Cannon Building, 861 Silver Lake Boulevard, Dover, DE.

PRESENT: Ron Castaldo, CRNA; Megan Williams, FNP-C; Neha Soares, MD; Maryanne Holzapfel, RPh; Katie O'Brien, CNM; Joseph Rubacky, DO; Mark Borer, MD

ABSENT: Mary Diamond, DO; Cindy Cunningham, PMHCNS/NP

GUESTS: None

PRESIDING: Ron Castaldo, CRNA

STAFF: Pamela Zickafoose, Executive Director, Delaware Board of Nursing

CALL TO ORDER: Dr. Castaldo called the meeting to order at 5:01 p.m. and welcomed Dr. Soares to the committee. Members introduced themselves.

REVIEW OF MINUTES: Minutes from January 14, 2019 were reviewed. Dr. Williams made a motion to accept the minutes as written, seconded by Ms. O'Brien. The motion carried with Dr. Soares abstaining.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

APRN Subcommittee for Report to General Assembly

Dr. Williams provided a brief overview of the report to committee members explaining the history of the report in regards to the 2015 legislation. She attended the Board of Medical Licensure and Discipline (BMLD) meeting on March 5, 2019 and answered questions posed by the BMLD. The BMLD agreed to have their president sign the document with the Board of Nursing recommending removal of both §1934 4a and 4b and the BMLD only supporting removal of §1934 4a. Once signed, Mr. Mangler will submit the report to the Division of Research for distribution to the General Assembly.

Ms. O'Brien asked about the complaint process and who files complaints since none were submitted for APRNs with independent practice to date. Members discussed the disciplinary process and Dr. Rubacky described how to file a complaint online.

NEW BUSINESS:

Applications for Independent Practice:

Julianne Tondreau, FNP

Following review of the required documentation Dr. Williams moved, seconded by Dr. Rubacky to grant independent practice. The motion passed unanimously.

Cynthia Jones, Adult/Gero NP

Following review of the required documentation Ms. O'Brien Williams moved, seconded by Dr. Borer to grant independent practice. The motion passed unanimously.

Cheryl Gamble, CRNA

Following review of the required documentation Dr. Nehas questioned having a plastic surgeon as a collaborator and asked if that was acceptable. Dr. Rubacky stated the collaborator must be in the same role and population focus. Ms. O'Brien questioned whether Ms. Gamble had independent practice in another state. Dr. Rubacky moved, seconded by Dr. Soares to table the application pending verification of practice hours from an anesthesiologist. The motion passed unanimously.

Taresa Pittman, Psych/Mental Health NP

Following review of the required documentation Dr. Williams moved, seconded by Dr. Soares, to grant independent practice. The motion passed unanimously.

Erin Walczykowski, Psych/Mental Health NP

Following review of the required documentation Dr. Williams moved, seconded by Dr. Soares, to grant independent practice. The motion passed unanimously.

Dr. Borer asked whether the collaborators are reading the regulations. Members reviewed the question pertaining to the hours and the application question asks for total hours and time period during which the APRN practiced. Members agreed this encourages collaborators to include more than just the past five years. Dr. Borer suggested the application language be changed to reflect only the past five years. Dr. Zickafoose informed members there was a moratorium on application changes due to the new online licensure system going live in October this year.

Sharon Campbell, FNP

Following review of the required documentation Dr. Rubacky moved, seconded by Ms. O'Brien, to grant independent practice. The motion passed unanimously.

Heather Martin, Psych/Mental Health NP

Following review of the required documentation Dr. Williams moved, seconded by Dr. Rubacky, to grant independent practice. The motion passed unanimously.

Teresa Yarborough, FNP

Following review of the required documentation Dr. Borer moved, seconded by Ms. Holzapfel, to grant independent practice. The motion passed unanimously.

John Felizzi, CRNA

Members discussed the verification from a dermatologist did not qualify; however, the anesthesiologist verification did meet the requirements. Following review of the required documentation Dr. Soares moved, seconded by Dr. Williams, to grant independent practice. The motion passed unanimously.

Nicholas Blanck, CRNA

Following review of the required documentation Dr. Williams moved, seconded by Dr. Borer, to grant independent practice. The motion passed unanimously.

Tina Grossman, FNP

Following review of the required documentation Ms. O'Brien moved, seconded by Ms. Holzapfel, to grant independent practice. The motion passed unanimously.

Kimberly Brasure, FNP

Following review of the required documentation Dr. Williams moved, seconded by Dr. Rubacky, to table the application pending clarification of all three verification forms related to role/population, hours worked and dates listed. The motion passed unanimously.

Emily Youngblood, FNP

Following review of the required documentation Dr. Soares moved, seconded by Ms. Holzapfel, to grant independent practice. The motion passed unanimously.

Dr. Borer asked what is required for FNPs going back to school when they complete a Psych/Mental Health NP certification. Dr. Zickafoose explained the nurse should get a second license after completing the education and passing the Psych/Mental Health certification exam. She further explained that independent practice from the FNP license is not automatically transferred to the new license. It would not be granted until the APRN completes two years and 4000 hours in the new role/population focus as a Psych/Mental Health NP. Ms. O'Brien stated CNMs are going back to get further training in mental health but they already treat post-partum depression. Dr. Castaldo explained that FNPs get basic mental health training in their curriculum and their scope allows them to treat uncomplicated mental health issues.

OTHER BUSINESS (for discussion only):

Dr. Zickafoose shared a request from the Division to remove the 10 hours of pharmacology CE required for renewal of APRN licensure since all APRNs must maintain current certification which requires CE. In addition, the committee was reminded that physicians do not have a CE requirement for license renewal which creates a higher standard for nurses. This request will also allow renewals to be streamlined in the new Delpros licensure system. Dr. Rubacky made a motion to delete rule 8.14.9.2 requiring 10 hours of pharmacology CE for license renewal, seconded by Dr. Borer. The motion carried unanimously.

Dr. Borer commented he is working with psychiatrists and APRNs regarding insurance coverage. The *Transformation to Clinical Practice Initiative* was sent to various organizations. Training was provided regarding tools to build billing codes but only one psychiatrist and one Psych/Mental Health APRN attended. Dr. Zickafoose commented the role of the board and the Division is to issue licenses and they have no rules or regulations pertaining to this. Dr. Borer will contact Dr. Williams regarding reaching out to other state stakeholders.

Dr. Castaldo mentioned the ionizing radiation waiver from Karyl Rattay will be sent in the future to allow APRNs to perform these procedures until the regulations can be changed.

PUBLIC COMMENT: There was no public comment.

NEXT MEETING: March 4, 2019 in Conference Room A of the Cannon Building

ADJOURNMENT: The meeting was adjourned at 6:22 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Pamela C. Zickafoose". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Pamela C. Zickafoose, EdD, MSN, RN, NE-BC, CNE, FRE
Executive Director, Delaware Board of Nursing